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RCA-25/5001/73
6 April 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Recipients of RCA-25/5001/73

SUBJECT : Summary of Activity in Cuba
1 January - 31 December 1972,
Basic Imagery Interpretation Report
Dated March 1973.

Please insert the attached page (1 and 2) in the referenced report, as the figure on page 2 is in error.

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RCA-25/5001/7

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY IN CUBA

1 JANUARY - 31 DECEMBER 1972

INTRODUCTION

1. This report summarizes significant intelligence information derived from U-2 aerial surveillance over Cuba during the reporting period 1 January through 31 December 1972. Nineteen productive Old Head (OH) and Olympic Fire (OF) photographic missions (see references) were flown during this period. The final date of information in this report is 30 December 1972, the date of Mission G-418. A list of the principal installations mentioned in the report is presented in Table 1, their locations are shown on Figure 10.

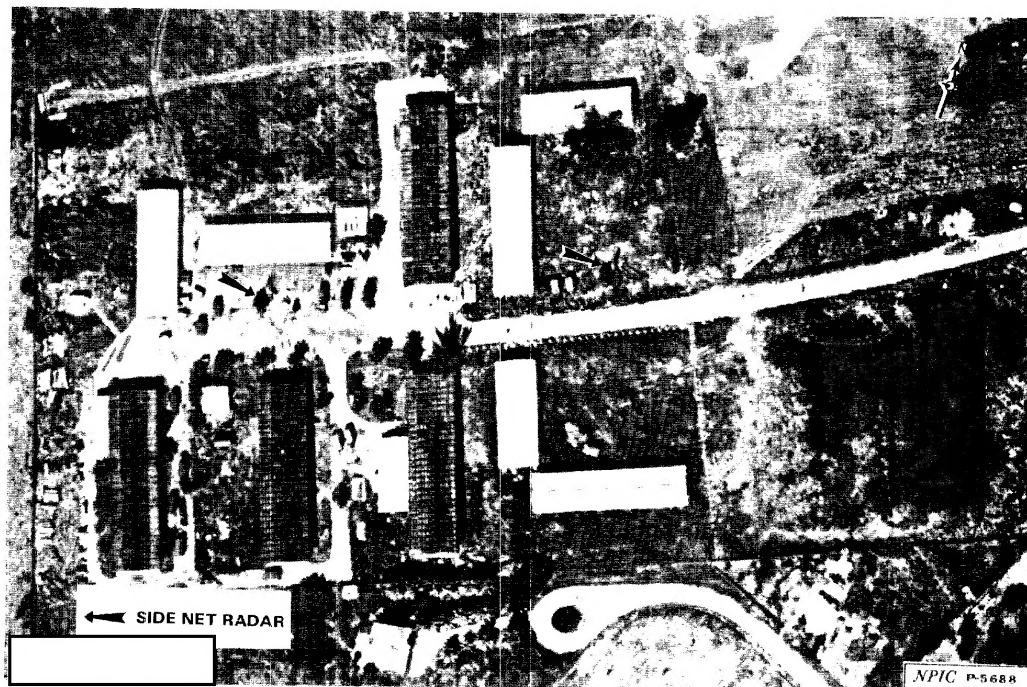
2. The following is a chronology of significant events and activities observed in Cuba on Old Head and Olympic Fire photography during 1972.

January

4. A Soviet Kashin-class guided missile frigate (DLG) and four Sot-1 class submarine chasers (PCS) were probably participating in antisubmarine warfare (ASW) exercises when sighted underway approximately 10 nautical miles (nm) northwest of Mariel. A Kashin DLG and an F-class diesel-powered torpedo attack submarine (SS) were observed earlier in Mariel port on [REDACTED]

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4. SIDE NET radars were identified for the first time in Cuba. Two SIDE NET radars, each with two support vans, were set up at a newly identified radar assembly/checkout facility at Rancho Boyeros Military Camp South (Figure 1). Later approximately 6.0 nm south southwest of Havana, a SIDE NET radar was deployed at La Habana Radar Facility and another at Santa Cruz del Norte Air Warning Radar Facility. Just two SIDE NET radars were identified in Cuba during 1972.



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FIGURE 1. SIDE NET RADARS, RADAR ASSEMBLY CHECKOUT FACILITY, RANCHO BOYEROS MILITARY CAMP SOUTH

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4: At San Antonio de Los Baños Airfield, 12 FISHBED (MIG 21) aircraft fuselage shipping crates were observed, where there were five on [redacted] Seven were seen as deck cargo on a Soviet freighter near the entrance to Havana Port on [redacted] An increase in the count of aircraft component crates was also noted.

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25: Two OSA-1 Class large guided missile patrol boats (PTFG) were observed, one at Cabanas Naval Base, the other underway 8 nm north of Cabanas. These were the first OSA-1 PTFG boats to be delivered to Cuba. They were towed to Cuba individually by Soviet tugs in January 1972. They were berthed at Cabanas Naval Base throughout 1972 (Figure 2).

March

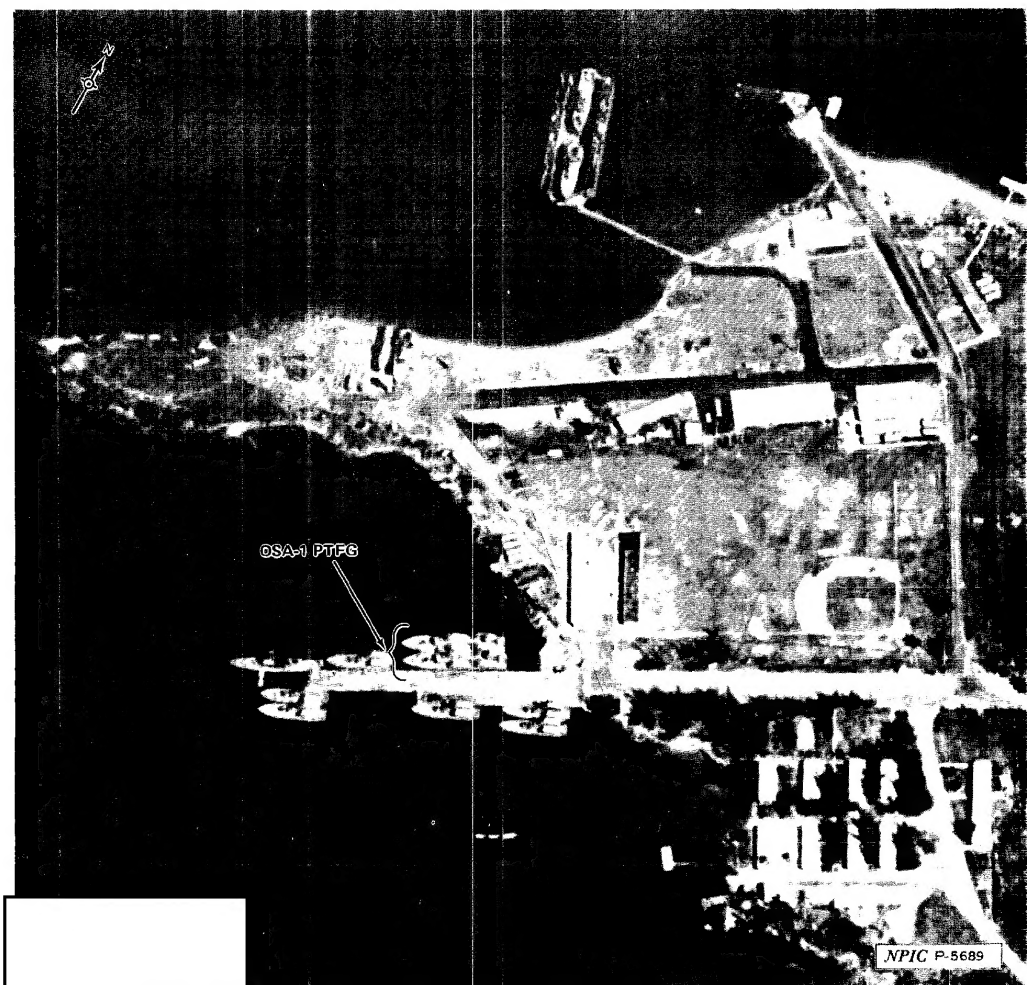
13: A Soviet Kotlin Class guided missile destroyer (DDG) was observed for the first time in Cuba at Cienfuegos port on 13 March. The Kotlin DDG with an F-Class SS along its port side was berthed at O' Burke pier.

13: The Soviet Space Operations Control Ship (SSOCS) Cosmonaut Vladimir Komarov was in Havana Port.

13: Seventy-four STYX SS-N-2 naval missile shipping crates were observed for the first time at La Habana Military Storage Depot. The 76 STYX crates seen in open storage at San Diego de Nunez Military Camp on 25 January were not there on [redacted]

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13: The two newly constructed radar mounds were complete and occupied at Santa Cruz del Norte Air Warning Radar Facility.



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FIGURE 2. OSA-1 CLASS LARGE GUIDED MISSILE PATROL BOATS (PTFG), CABANAS NAVAL BASE

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